

SUPPLEMENTAL REMARKS

For the Examiner's convenience, a listing, in clean form, of the claims as amended in Applicant's November 19, 2007 reply has been provided above.

Applicant's November 19, 2007 reply unfortunately contained text garbled as a result of an error in converting the reply document into PDF for submission to the USPTO via its Electronic Filing System. Below, this supplemental reply re-presents, in editorially revised form, Applicant's remarks from the November 19, 2007 reply with regard to Japanese Unexamined Pat. App. Pub. No. 2002-110775 to Ohori. (In combination with U.S. Pat. No. 4,349,119 to Letica, *Ohori* was cited in rejecting claims 1, 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.)

The following re-presentation of Applicant's rebuttal against *Ohori* is the sole purpose of this supplemental reply; the claims have not been amended further, nor are any new arguments attempted.

- Begin Re-presentation -

Applicant's Rebuttal against Ohori

Ohori discloses a precision-packaging substrate container comprising a container body 1, a cassette 3, a substrate capping rack 8, and a lid 6.

Applicant notes that the Examiner is relying on a machine translation of *Ohori*, as entered on the PTO-892 form listing the references cited. It will be appreciated that this Japanese-to-English translation is deficient and awkward. For instance, the Japanese character string "両側壁面下部" should be read in discrete pairs—that is, as "両側," "壁面," and "下部"—yet the machine translation has parsed this phrase as a pair, a triplet, and a singular unit—that is, as "両側," "壁面下," and "部." Consequently, the English reads, "both-sides 'kabeshita' part," with "kabeshita" merely transliterated but left un-translated and therefore meaningless. Interpreted correctly, "両側壁面下部" should be: "the lower portion of the sidewalls on opposite sides."

Further, in many places in the machine translation, the English semantics and syntax are so off as to leave the sentence unintelligible.

In order to demonstrate what an acceptable English translation of a passage from *Ohori* that is pertinent to Applicant's reply should be, presented below are: (1) the Japanese original; (2) the machine-translated English the examiner relies upon; and (3) an English translation done by a skilled human translator.

(1) Japanese Original

[0013] . . . この蓋体 6 の両側壁下部には、下方に伸びる略矩形のフック 7 がそれぞれ屈曲可能に形成され、各フック 7 の開口部が容器本体 1 の係止部 2 の突部に嵌合係止することにより、容器本体 1 の開口した上面に蓋体 6 が強固に嵌合保持される。

(2) English Relied upon by the Examiner

[0013] . . . The hook 7 of the abbreviation rectangle extended below is formed in the both-sides Kabeshita part of this lid 6 respectively possible [crookedness], and when opening of each hook 7 carries out fitting locking to the projected part of the locking part 2 of the body 1 of a container, the fitting hold of the lid 6 is carried out firmly on the top face in which the body 1 of a container carried out opening.

(3) English Translation by Skilled Human Translator

A downwardly extending, roughly rectangular hook 7 is formed bendable on the lower portion of each of the sidewalls of the lid 6 on two opposite sides. Openings in either hook 7 engagingly interlock with projections in a locking part 2 in the container body 1, whereby the lid 6 is engagingly retained firmly on the upper surface of the opened container body 1.

Then, in contrast to *Ohori*, in the present invention the engaging plates 2a, one of which appears in the oblique representation in Fig. 1, are formed integrally with the lid 2. In view of the service demands placed on precision-packaging substrate containers, Applicant's lid is designed to employ a rigid or only slightly bendable material; in particular, Applicant's inventive lid 1 and each engaging plate 2a are definitely rigid, in contradistinction to *Ohori*'s rectangular hook 7.

As claim 1 now recites,

the D zone lateral ribs each being provided with at least one engaging projection engageable with said container lid to accomplish air tight seal by engagement with an engaging plate, each said engaging plate being integrally, rigidly connected with the container lid, and provided with vertical extension and to stride across the D zone.

Accordingly, Applicant's plate 2a by its vertical extension covers the D zone, and plays a role analogous to existing ribs, functioning to reinforce the other ribs by dint of the rigid quality of its material. Such advantages are cannot be predicted from the *Ohori* reference.

- End Re-presentation -

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Entry of the present supplemental reply and favorable action by the Examiner at an early date are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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